

Message Text

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SUBJECT: REALEASE OF REPORT OF DOMESTIC COUNCIL COMMITTEE
ON ILLEGAL ALIENS

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY DEPARTMENT OF
JUSTICE JANUARY 8, ACCOMPANYING RELEASE OF REPORT PREPARED
BY DOMESTIC COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON ILLEGAL ALIENS:

QUOTE: MASSIVE DEPORTATION OF ILLEGAL ALIENS IS BOTH
INHUMANE AND IMPRACTICAL, AND US POLICY SHOULD CONTINUE
TO STRESS PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL ENTRIES, ACCORDING TO A
PRELIMINARY REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT BY THE DOMESTIC
COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON ILLEGAL ALIENS.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION IS "SIGNIFICANT AND GROWING," PERHAPS
EXCEEDING LEGAL IMMIGRATION, THE REPORT SAID, AND, IN THE
LONG RUN, ENFORCEMENT OF PRESENT LAW WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT
TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM. WHAT IS NEEDED ULTIMATELY, IT
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ADDED, IS A THOROUGH RETHINKING OF IMMIGRATION POLICY IN
THE CONTEXT OF EMPLOYMENT, POPULATION AND FOREIGN RELATIONS
ISSUES.

ROOTED IN POWERFUL SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FORCES ENDEMIC TO
BOTH HOST AND SENDING NATIONS, ILLEGAL MIGRATION TODAY
COMES FROM A GROWING NUMBER OF RAPIDLY DEVELOPING NATIONS

WITH HIGH RATES OF POPULATION GROWTH AND HISTORIC, CULTURAL OR POLITICAL TIES TO THE UNITED STATES, THE REPORT SAID.

THE MAJOR DOMESTIC IMPACT OF THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AT THIS TIME SEEMS TO BE ON THE LABOR MARKET, ACCORDING TO THE REPORT. THIS IMPACT IS LIKELY TO SPREAD TO OTHER AREAS, PARTICULARLY SOCIAL SERVICES, AS THE PROCESS OF SETTLEMENT AND FORMATION OF FAMILIES PROCEEDS. MANY LARGE CITIES ARE ALREADY EXPERIENCING THIS WIDENING IMPACT, THE REPORT SAID.

THE COMMITTEE'S STUDY IS THE BROADEST GOVERNMENT ASSESSMENT OF THE ILLEGAL ALIEN ISSUE TO DATE.

ATTORNEY GENERAL EDWARD H. LEVI IS CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, WHICH CONSISTS OF EIGHT CABINET MEMBERS WHOSE DEPARTMENTS SHARE RESPONSIBILITIES RELATED TO ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION.

"THE COMMITTEE HAS ATTEMPTED TO PRESENT A COMPREHENSIVE DISCUSSION OF THE POLICY ISSUES RAISED BY THE ILLEGAL ALIEN PHENOMENON," MR. LEVI SAID. "THIS INCLUDES IMPORTANT FOREIGN RELATIONS AS WELL AS DOMESTIC CONSIDERATIONS. WE HOPE THE REPORT WILL PROVOKE FURTHER THOUGHT AND ACTION."

THE REPORT, WHICH HAS BEEN ALMOST A YEAR IN DEVELOPMENT, SETS FORTH BOTH IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS.
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THESE INCLUDE:

A. CONTINUED COORDINATION AND DIRECTION ON THE ISSUE AT THE CABINET LEVEL, BECAUSE NECESSARY STEPS CROSS MANY BUREAUCRATIC AND AGENCY LINES.

B. CONTINUED SUPPORT BY THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF LEGISLATION THAT INCLUDES PENALTIES FOR EMPLOYERS WHO KNOWINGLY HIRE ILLEGAL ALIENS.

C. EVALUATION BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE CURRENT TEMPORARY WORKER PROVISIONS OF THE LAW AND ASSESSMENT OF THEIR ADEQUACY TO MEET THE LEGITIMATE NEEDS OF EMPLOYERS FOR TEMPORARY FOREIGN WORKERS.

D. AN ENFORCEMENT POLICY THAT CONTINUES TO EMPHASIZE PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL ENTRY RATHER THAN APPREHENSION OF ILLEGAL ALIENS AFTER SETTLEMENT. THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WHICH

ARE THE AGENCIES ADMINISTERING THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT, MUST BE ABLE TO MARSHAL GREATER RESOURCES TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS POLICY.

E. THE COMMITTEE IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE LARGE NUMBER OF ILLEGAL ALIENS ALREADY IN THE UNITED STATES AND RECOGNIZES THAT MASSIVE DEPORTATION IS BOTH INHUMANE AND IMPRACTICAL. ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATION CURRENTLY SUPPORTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH WOULD PERMIT SOME TO ADJUST STATUS. HOWEVER, THE COMMITTEE SHOULD EVALUATE AND DEVELOP OTHER POLICY APPROACHES TOWARD THOSE CURRENTLY RESIDING IN THE COUNTRY.

F. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE SHOULD UNDERTAKE SERIOUS, HIGH-PRIORITY EXCHANGES, IN ADDITION TO THOSE UNDERWAY WITH MEXICO, WITH GOVERNMENTS OF MAJOR SENDING NATIONS. THE EMPHASIS SHOULD BE ON FINDING EFFECTIVE WAYS TO
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REDUCE PRESSURES THAT CREATE MIGRATION.

G. INITIATION BY THE COMMITTEE OF A BROAD-BASED RESEARCH PROGRAM TO BROADEN OUR UNDERSTANDING AND ANALYSIS OF IMMIGRATION-RELATED PROBLEMS.

H. A RE-EXAMINATION BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE BASIC PRECEPTS AND OPERATION OF CURRENT IMMIGRATION POLICY TOWARD A GOAL OF FUNDAMENTAL REVISIONS IN THE LAW.

2. DEPARTMENT POUCHING COPIES OF FULL REPORT TO EMBASSY.

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